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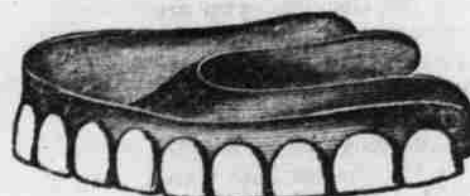
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IF YOU PLEASE.

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Fall to go to Salem or any other place to pur-
chase your furniture.

For I am prepared to furnish at my
shop in Dallas on the shortest notice, for
as little money as they can be purchased
any where, all kinds of
BED ROOM,
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SITTING ROOM or
KITCHEN FURNITURE.

Also kept on hand or furnished to order, all
kinds, and the best quality of sash and doors,
call immediately and examine my stock of
FURNITURE, DOORS and SASH—consult
my prices and terms—it shall cost you nothing
to examine—I charge nothing for my time—
come at once and see me before spending a
dollar in my line elsewhere and I will save you
money.

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We respectfully call the attention of the
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We can assure our Patrons that we will be
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Come and Examine our Stock before pur-
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Country Produce taken in exchange for
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ALL KINDS OF WORK, SEWING
Washing and Ironing, &c., done by M.
on short notice and on reasonable
terms. All orders left at the house, south-west
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WANT OF THE DISPLACED ELE- MENT IN OUR RING REPUBLIC.

BY ELIHU BURRITT.

The "stealthy transformation of our
republic into a ringpublic may be
ascribed, in no small degree, to the
displacement of an element in the
body politic which was never appreci-
ated at its true value in the better days
of our national virtue. It was then
decried and almost hated by the New
England and nearly the whole North-
ern mind. The same mind seems to
think that the suppression of that
element has been a triumph for the
cause of freedom, truth and purity.
Indeed, its entire extinction is regarded
as a consummation devoutly to be
wished. This sentiment has
become so prevalent that it may
subject one to the charge of disloyalty
to regret that an influence which
wrought so powerfully in shaping the
character of the republic in its first
and best years has been displaced by
another more popular. "Down with
the aristocracy!" is the watchword
of the social democracy, both in
England and in America; and the
same cry is passing through other
countries. This cry does not mean
down with men who have made them-
selves richer than the hereditary
aristocracy by sweating out vast
fortunes from the toil and industry of
a single generation, but down with
historical or old families of the country,
who have retained in their possession
estates purchased centuries ago at a
shilling or two an acre, and to which
each century has added an increased
value. Down with men who have
become large fortunes by this slow
process of accretion, and have not
jumped into great wealth by specula-
tion in stocks, or by trading or
manufacturing enterprise like the
great majority of rich people.

Now, the worst sin of a landed or
hereditary aristocracy, in popular
estimation, in their *esprit de corps*, or
that pride of order which leads them to
feel it derogatory to their dignity to
engage personally in trade or in those
business enterprises which other men
of wealth pursue. Then this feeling
becomes additionally obnoxious by
stimulating what they call a "high
sense of honor," a kind of horror or
contempt for small and mean acts
and ways of life and thought, for a
trafficking spirit and habit of mind,
and for the everlasting talk about the
irrepressible dollar. It is these pre-
tensions, this carriage and pose of mind
and life, more than their absolute
wealth, than render an aristocracy of
this order so repugnant to the popular
mind, especially in America. For
there is no country in the world where
men compass sea, land and fire with
more avidity for the aristocracy of
abstract wealth than among us. Our
railroad kings and merchant princes,
stock jobbing, and other potentates in
our moneyed world, constitute an
aristocracy as rich in dollars as the
nobility and gentry of England. And
these enjoy a public estimation and
exert an influence which fire thousands
with the ambition to attain the same
position by the same or more question-
able means. Thus an aristocracy of
sheer wealth, however acquired, short
of absolute crime, is the most popular
order in American society. And the
more this aristocracy retains and
exhibits the spirit of what the French
call *bourgeoisie*, the more popular and
influential it becomes, because it
remains in affinity, and on the same
level of thought and purpose, with the
great multitude of money-seekers.

Now, to a thoughtful, observant mind
nothing can be more evident and more
disquieting than the fact that this kind
of aristocratic *bourgeoisie* has come to
the front as the ruling power in this
country. It is a moneyed aristocracy
that thinks, plans and acts in the
fullest spirit of *bourgeoisie*, without

any pretension to that high sense of
honor or punctilious *esprit de corps*
which governs the deportment of an
hereditary or landed gentry. And it
is a hard thing to say or believe, but
an honest mind must believe it true,
that this "*bourgeoisie*" regime only
came into power at the suppression of
that Southern aristocracy which we so
energetically denounced, when it
existed in the full strength of its
influence. Scarcely anything was or
could be more distasteful or even
hateful to us than the carriage,
sentiment, and self-arrogated position
of that proud and pretentious
aristocracy which adopted the spirit an
deportment of the English nobility and
gentry. But one who looks back over
the history of the country from its
birth as a nation must now see and
own that the influence of this
Southern aristocracy was an element of
immense value in shaping the
character of our public men and
political life. The existence of many
things is only realized by their
temporary absence. For nearly ten
years the South, as a political power,
has been withdrawn from the Union.
It has been ruled, repressed and stifled
in its old character and influence by
the worst kind of a carpet-bagging
bourgeoisie. During this demoralizing
regime, it has been shorn of all its locks
of its power on the national government
and public men of the country. It has
not yet sent a single representative of
old historical families, no Calhoun, nor
Clay, nor Benton, nor Berrien. None
of its old names have answered to the
roll-call in either House at the capital.
None of its old chivalry, its high
sense of honor, has been represented
by the newly imported men who have
pretended to answer for the South.
The spirit which she boasted, and
which we denounced, has ceased to act
on the political morality of the nation.
Perhaps the whole Northern mind
rejoices at this emancipation. We are
now showing the world, and proving to
ourselves, what we are doing and can
do without the influence of a Southern
aristocracy, as we called it.

Yes; we have shown to the world
and to ourselves what we can do as a
nation without the old influence of the
Southern mind; without the
pretentious "chivalry" and "high sense
of honor," and contempt of small and
crooked ways which the "first families of
Virginia" and other Southern States
boasted of. We have shown what the
trade-spirit, unchecked by the
influence of such chivalry, can do
when it prevades the entire nation,
dominating national and State
legislation, and touching with its golden
wand the highest court of justice in the
land. We have seen how this great
republic has been transmuted into a
ringpublic, while the South has been
reduced to a political nonentity; what
a concentric series of rings, what
"wheel within a wheel," and in the
prophet's vision, have been produced
from the center to the circumference of
the Union.

Look at the succession of these
rings: first, the "primary meeting"
ring, or the caucus of half a dozen
politicians making up their "slate"
around a grocer's cask of onions or
dried apples. Follow the series of
that political ring from that primary
meeting of free and independent
citizens up through State Conventions
to the Congressional Caucus and lobby
at Washington. Then take the
corporation rings, and follow them from
the center to circumference of their
power. Do the same with land rings,
gold rings, wheat rings, traffic and
transportation rings, and tariff rings.
that touch with their perimeters either
ocean, at the Credit Mobilier they
organize, the legislation they control,
and the legislators they demoralize and
smirch with the pitch of dishonest
transactions. See what men in the

highest places of trust have sold and
soiled the characters the public had
given them, hastening to be rich by
treachery or fraud. See how the fine
gold of political and commercial probity
has been dimmed by these transactions,
and the suspicions they engender.
What the French mean by *bourgeoisie*,
we express by *shoddy*; and no word in
our language has a more uniformly
accepted meaning than this of recent
coinage. We all know what shoddy
means in textile fabrics. But never
did it fill such a place or play such a
part in a soldier's coat as it does in our
paper money, in our paper characters
on change, and in the paper moralities
which the last few years have
witnessed.

It may seem disloyal to our
Republican institutions to say it, but
when it is said, let the candid reader
see if he can disprove it; what this
country needs at the present juncture
is the element that has been displaced
by the political ostracism of the
South. I do not say that we need a
Southern aristocracy, but we need one
which shall resemble and exercise
some of its best characteristics and such
we need imperatively; North and
South, East and west. We need a
class with as fine an *esprit de corps*,
with as high sense of honor and
personal and family dignity, as England
ever produced or the South claimed to
possess. We want such men as
the Jeffersons, Madisons, Lowndes,
Pinckneys, Calhouns, Clay and Bentons
and other statesmen whom the South
has contributed to the structure and
glory of nation, whether they come from
one side of Mason and Dixon's line or
the other. We want men who shall
walk through the lobbies of Congress and
"wear the flower of a blameless life
and of a blameless thought, though each
hall and every step beset with the
gift-bearing Greeks corrupting rings
seeking to place their gold "where
shall do most good." You may call
such a class or aristocracy, or by any
opprobrious name; but it is a class we
most need in every section of the Union
stand as a bulwark against the
overthrow of *shoddy* which threatens
to drown the political probity all purity
of our national life and character.

A FAST RAILROAD.—Our friend
Jones is commercial traveller for a
Massachusetts paper firm, and was
recently travelling in Maryland. Af-
ter detailing some of his experiences
to us, he goes on as follows:

And then, on another occasion, I
remember, we came within a hair's
breadth of having a very serious acci-
dent. The engineer had gotten off to
snowball a chipmunk—the result was
the train happened to get on a down
grade, and was started off at a terrible
rate, every bit of four miles an hour, I
should think.

We were just half a mile above
Annapolis Junction, and the first thing
we knew there being no one to whistle
and wake up the switch-tender—we
were turned off into the Annapolis
road, and went down the wrong track
at full speed. Imagine our consterna-
tion, when just at this moment we
heard the whistle, not half a mile
ahead of us, of the Annapolis up-
train.

We were paralyzed with terror.
Here were two trains on the same track
approaching each other at the speed,
just mentioned. Evidently our time
had come! In a few short hours the
engines would meet, and then—de-
struction.

With great presence of mind, a
minister on board organized a prayer
meeting. Pale, but calm, the doomed
band of passengers set, and though
with the very shadow of death upon
them, raised their voice in a parting
hymn.

"Send for the baggage master," said
a young man with a sad smile.

"For what reason?" was asked.

"Because we are about to pass in
our checks."

Everybody wept. From the rear
platform we could see the miserable
engineer straining every nerve to catch
up; but he had tight boots on, and
didn't gain anything to speak of.

At this moment a ray of hope
dawned upon us. I had just finished
my will on the back of a visiting card
when I observed a young lady in the
act of detaching her bustle, placing
the article—which was composed of
eight hundred papers and a hair
mattress—under her arm, the heroine
marched through the car.

She was followed anxiously.

She climbed upon the tender, and
then over the engine. It was very
interesting to see her climb over the
wheels and brass things on her way to
the cow-catcher. It reminded me of a
country girl getting over a wire. But
never mind that now. Let me see,
where was I? Oh! on the cow
catcher. Holding on the cross bars
with one hand, the noble maid tied
the bustle on the sharp prow with the
other.

You can guess the result. In the
course of the afternoon the collision
took place. Protected by the bustle,
the engine received only a gentle pump,
and we were saved. I took up a
collection on the spot. I always take
up a collection on such occasions—
always. And what's more, I never
forget to give the object interested
something nice out of it—never.
There is nothing mean about me. I
suppose you have noticed my clothes?

OUR NATIONAL CAPITAL.

The world at large advances irregu-
larly; it readily adopts some new ideas,
while others, quite as important, it
very much neglects. Thus it is here
in Washington. Great improvements
have been made, and many are now
in progress, while others fully as
important are quite neglected. Yet
the way has been opened, the spirit
introduced. This inspires hope toward
that which as yet lies in rude condition.
The advancements already made, and
which are not few, will in time neces-
sitate the carrying out of others.

This place is fast becoming a railroad
center, which fact will give a new spur
to the condition of things, and tend
more to develop the natural resources
of the district, which for such a length
of time have lain dormant.

In all localities there are a few men
with ample brains to see what ten-
sions, under favorable circumstances,
might result from improving the
various natural resources, yet who are
themselves too poor to do anything
beyond examine into the rich bounties
of nature, and to talk with their few
friends, who are usually as helpless
as themselves, of the latent powers
with which the locality abounds.

Washington certainly has good
streets and sidewalks, particularly
sidewalks, which here extend for
blocks in very thinly-settled places,
and, in fact, for squares where there
are no houses at all. This is done for
the convenience of those living beyond,
for the better access to remote and
isolated parts. The city, as a whole,
is not thickly settled—and seems the
most settled in spots of any place we
were ever in. Here is a closely built
section, and just beyond few are no
houses at all—if any,
only a few negro shanties; be-
yond this, again, a densely settled local-
ity. From this and the condition of
the soil we discover the need of these
sidewalks even where there are only
open lots. The soil is of such a
nature that during the winter months,
or rainy spells, but for these nicely
paved walks it would be exceedingly
—we might say impossible, except to
those who are strong in limb and who

Concluded on fourth page.